NEWS FROM

KHEAA-Alabama

100 North Union Street, Suite 390, Montgomery, AL 36104-3762 Phone: (334) 265-9720 Toll-free: (800) 721-9720 Fax: (334) 265-9750

Contact: Lori Powers Phone: (502) 696-7378

January 2009

Money Tips for College Students: How to Make It, Use It and Save It

Plan your financial goals

Students who are working should set financial goals beyond paying this month's bills.

The biggest goal is saving money for retirement. For college students, another goal is to graduate with as little debt as possible.

But financial goals may also include saving for vacation or a new car. Whatever the goal is, save for it.

To plan for your financial goals, take a sheet of paper — or a sheet of virtual paper if you want to do it online — and list your short- and long-term goals. Estimate how much you can reasonably set aside out of each paycheck to save for those goals. You will have a better idea of how to finance your goals when you break down how long it takes you to save. Maybe that will mean cutting back on some things — dining out once a week instead of two or three times a week, or buying store brands instead of name brands. It might even mean picking up a part-time job, if that's an option considering your current schedule.

Whatever your goal might be, you have a much better chance of reaching it if you do some planning ahead of time.

These tips are brought to you by KHEAA–Alabama, which has helped thousands of students pay for college. For more information about student financial aid and college planning, visit www.alstudentaid.com; write KHEAA–Alabama, 100 North Union Street, Suite 390, Montgomery, AL 36104-3761; or call 334-265-9720, toll free (800) 721-9720.